Commission (UNCC) has settled 183 Indian Category "B' claims for US $ 700,000. This money is being disbursed to the individual claimants through the four designated nationalised banks, namely, the Central Bank of India, the Indian Overseas Bank, the Syndicate Bank and the Union Bank of India. The UNCC has approved approximately 97,000. Indian Category "A' claims for payment but no money has been transferred by the UNCC for settling these claims. The UNCC is at present scrutinising Category "C' claims. After this, they will take up examination of Category "D' claims and only after that, Category "E' and Category "F' claims which are corporate and Government claims.

The UNCC is exclusively responsible to scrutinise and examine these claims and award payments. The Government is in touch with the UNCC for settling the claims of Indian nationals. However, since the UNCC has no funds at present, the Government is not in a position to make an assessment of the time-frame within which all pending claims will be settled by the UNCC.

Setting up of An Independent Security Commission In Each State

602. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: (a) whether the National Police Commission and some eminent jurists and human rights activists have recommended the setting up of an Independent Security Commission in each State, comprising of the State Home Minister, 4 MLAs to be nominated by the Speaker and 4 other eminent persons from different walks of life, to oversee and supervise the functioning of Police; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter in the context of criminal-politician-bureaucracy-police nexus as brought out in the Vohra Committee Report, political interference in the functioning of the police and increasing incidents of police a trocities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SYED SIBTEY RAZI): (a) National Police Commission has recommended the setting up of State Security Commissions, comprising State Minister Incharge of Police as ex-officio Chairman and six others as Members-2 Members from State Legislature and remaining 4 Members from different walks of life.

(b) The recommendation was forwarded to all State Governments for implementation. Attention of the Chief Ministers was also drawn for its early implementation. "police' being a State subject, it is for the State Government to take a decision on this recommendation.

Closure of Guest Houses, Lodges and Hotels in Residential Areas in Delhi

603. SHRI K.M. KHAN:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered the closure of all lodges, hotels and guest houses located in residential areas in Delhi;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) the number of such guest houses, lodges and hotels closed, area-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Variations in Oil Usage and Loss in Refineries

604. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been not only large variations in oil usage and oil losses in defferent refineries in India, but also that these figures are higher than the standard norms;

(b) the norms for oil usage and oil losses and the actual oil consumption and oil losses in different refineries during the last three years

and how do these compare with norms and actual consumption/ losses in other countries; and

(c) what measures have been taken to reduce oil consumption and losses and the wide variations in these amongst different companies and what have the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUEM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Fuel (oil usage) and loss expressed as percentage weight on crude thruput varies from refinery to refinery. This is due to factors such as refinery complexity types of crude oil processed, product mix, product quality, levels of thruputs, severity of operation, vintage of technology/equipment and degree of integration of various process units with respect to energy conservation. The actual fuel (oil usage) & loss of Indian refineries is generally lower than the standard norms.

(b) and (c) The actual fuel & loss for various refineries during the last three years vis-a-vis standard norms is given in the annexure *[See Appendix 176, Annexure No. 32]*

Oil Usage (Fuel) & Loss depends on various factors and therefore, vary for each refinery. Hence not comparable with the refineries abroad in general.

Various measures undertaken at the refineries for energy conservation include adoption on modern pinchtechnology for heat optimisation in heat exchangers, replacement of oil inefficent furnaces with modern high efficiency furnaces, installation of digital distributed control and advance control systems, automation of despatches using PD meters and improved refinery maintenance practices etc.

Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline

605. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN:
SHRI SANATAN BISI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far towards the laying of gas pipeline from Iran to India via Pakistan;

(b) the stand of Pakistan Government vis-a-vis Indian Government and agencies involved in this project; and

(c) the steps being taken to accelerate the progress of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The feasibility study for the Iran-India natural gas pipeline project has been awarded to a Consortium led by M/s. PLE of Germany. The Consortium has taken up the feasibility study.

(b) The consent of the Government of Pakistan to carry out the route survey is awaited.

(c) The Government of Iran has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan.

Modernisation of State Roads as National Highways

606. SHRI BHAGBAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposal for upgradation of some State Roads in different States as National Highways;

(b) if so, the State from where such proposals have been received during the 8th Five Year Plan;

(c) the details of the proposals submitted by different State Governments in that regard; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) Various State Governments have submitted about 135 proposals aggregating to about 39,400 km. for being declared as National Highways during VIII Plan. A Statement indicating statewise detail is given below.